

Imagine that it is 1892, and you have just arrived in America. You came through Ellis Island with your one small suitcase, and you left some (if not all) of your family in your homeland. What was your journey like? What did you see? What happened on Ellis Island? As you look inside your suitcase, you find the paper and pencil that your family packed for you, and you know that your family is waiting to hear from you. As this new immigrant, write a letter to a family member of your choosing, and tell them about your journey.

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Your letter should use proper letter formatting (see example attached), and contain a minimum of 3 paragraphs. Be sure to answer at least three of the following questions in your letter:

* What have you seen on your journey?
* What things have you noticed that are different from home?
* What specifically happened on Ellis Island?
* Where are you now and what are you doing?

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Remember to proof-read your work, and edit for the correct usage of capitalization, spelling, and punctuation. Keep your handwriting neat so that your 'imaginary relative' is able to read your letter after it has it travelled back to your home country!



**Sample Friendly Letter**

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| |  | | --- | | 567 Meadow Dr. Williamsville, NY 14221 July 16, 1892  Put today's date here….. |   Dear Deanna,  http://www.letterwritingguide.com/images/space.gifIt feels like such a long time since the last time I saw you. It's hard to believe that it's only been a few weeks. So far my summer has been great!  http://www.letterwritingguide.com/images/space.gifI spend my all my weekends at the beach. I am getting a nice tan and you can no longer say I am paler than you. I have been playing lots of volleyball, surfing and building a nice collection of sea shells. Just this past weekend I took second place in a sandcastle building contest!  http://www.letterwritingguide.com/images/space.gifOn the weekdays I work. I drive an ice cream truck around and sell ice cream. It is so cool. The pay isn't too great but I really love the job.  http://www.letterwritingguide.com/images/space.gifI hope the summer's been going well for you too. There's only a month and a half left in summer vacation and after that it's back to school. Would you like to meet up some time before school starts?  Closing goes here. Could be Sincerely, Your friend, Your son/daughter, etc. Followed by a comma.   |  | | --- | | Your friend,  *Signature* |     Have a last minute thought? Start with "P.S." and write your comment here.  Sign your name here  Proper Salutation goes here, followed by a comma  Make sure to include your return address here…..  P.S. Did I mention that I love the beach? |